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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION EA-20

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NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 SRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 UPW-01 AID-28
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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
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INFO CINCPAC PRIORITY
USDEL FRANCE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 9332

SUBJECT: GENERAL MINH WILL RUN FOR PRESIDENT.

1. MRS. MARY TEMPLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE KERR/VANCE COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN VIETNAM, PHONED ME ON JUNE 13 TO SAY THE FOLLOWING:

A. WHEN THE COMMITTEE MET GENERAL MINH ON JUNE 12 FOR A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE ELECTION, MINH WAS PREVAILED ON TO REVEAL TO THE COMMITTEE HIS INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE ELECTIONS, ON CONDITION THAT WHAT HE SAID NOT BE REPEATED TO ANYONE. MINH SAID HE WOULD DEFINITELY BE A CANDIDATE, BUT HE MIGHT WITHDRAW DURING THE CAMPAIGN IF HE WAS CONFRONTED WITH HARASSMENT AND OBSTRUCTION OR THOUGHT THE ELECTION MIGHT BE RIGGED.

B. SAMUEL ARCHIBALD, A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE WHO IS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF US ELECTORAL FAIR PRACTICES COMMITTEE, SUBSEQUENTLY AT LUNCH WITH A UPI CORRESPONDENT REVEALED THE STORY. THE UPI CHECKED WITH GENERAL MINH AND FILED THE STORY, WHICH APPEARED JUNE 13.

C. THE KERR/VANCE COMMITTEE IS [illegible] BY THIS BREACH OF CONFIDENCE, SEVERED RELATIONS WITH ARCHIBALD, AND ON THEIR RETURN TO THE US WILL ASK THAT HE BE DROPPED FROM THE COMMITTEE.
BUNKER

(2)

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC, MR
REVIEWED BY Ivan Izenberg DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
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PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS